



Nearly 43,000 people died on U.S. roads last year, agency says

By TOM KRISHER and HOPE YEN

Associated Press

DETROIT (AP) — Nearly 43,000 people were killed on U.S. roads last year, the highest number in 16 years as Americans returned to the roads after the coronavirus pandemic forced many to stay at home.

The 10.5% jump over 2020 numbers was the largest percentage increase since the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration began its fatality data collection system in 1975. Exacerbating the problem was a persistence of risky driving behaviors during the pandemic, such as speeding and less frequent use of seat belts, as people began to venture out more in 2021 for out-of-state and other road trips, analysts said.

Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg said America faces a crisis on its roads. The safety administration urged state and local governments, drivers and safety advocates to join in an effort to reverse the rising death trend. "Our nation has taken a dangerous and deadly step backwards in traffic safety and impaired driving," said MADD National President Alex Otte, who urged strong public-private efforts akin to the seat belt and air bag public safety campaigns of the 1990s to stem reckless driving. "More families and more communities are feeling the crushing magnitude of this crisis on our roads."

Continued on Page 2



The scene of a fatality car crash, June 2, 2021, in Tulsa, Okla.

Associated Press

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Nearly 43,000 people died on U.S. roads last year, agency says

Continued from Front

Preliminary figures released Tuesday by the agency show that 42,915 people died in traffic crashes last year, up from 38,824 in 2020. Final figures will be released in the fall.

Forty-four states as well as the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico had increases in traffic deaths in 2021 compared to the previous year, led by Texas, California and Florida. Posting declines were Wyoming, Nebraska, Wisconsin, Maryland and Maine. Rhode Island's figures were unchanged.

Americans drove about 325 billion more miles last year, 11.2% higher than in 2020, which contributed to the increase.

Nearly 118 people died in U.S. traffic crashes every day last year, according to the agency's figures. The Governors Highway Safety Association, a group of state traffic safety officials, blamed the increase on dangerous behavior such as speeding, driving while impaired by alcohol and



Traffic flows along Interstate 90 highway as a Metra suburban commuter train moves along an elevated track in Chicago on March 31, 2021.

Associated Press

drugs, and distracted driving, as well as "roads designed for speed instead of safety." The combination, the group said, "has wiped out a decade and a half of progress in reducing traffic crashes, injuries and deaths." Deaths last year increased in almost all types of crash-

es, NHTSA reported. Crashes occurring during out of state travel jumped 15%, compared to 2020, many of them on rural interstate roads or access roads off city highways. Fatalities in urban areas and deaths in multi-vehicle crashes each rose 16%. Pedestrian deaths were up 13%, while

fatalities among drivers 65 and older rose 14%. Fatalities involving at least one big truck were up 13%,

while motorcycle deaths were up 9% and deaths of bicyclists rose 5%. Fatalities involving speeding drivers and deaths in alcohol-related crashes each were up 5%.

Government estimates show the rate of road deaths declined slightly from 2020. Last year there were 1.33 deaths per 100 million vehicle miles traveled, compared with 1.34 in 2020. The fatality rate rose in the first quarter of last year, but declined the rest of the year, NHTSA said. Traffic deaths began to spike in 2020. NHTSA has blamed reckless driving behavior for increases during the pandemic, citing behavioral research showing that speeding and traveling without a seat belt have been higher. Before 2020, the number of fatalities had fallen for three straight years. □



Deputy Director of Naval Intelligence Scott Bray points to a video display of a UAP during a hearing of the House Intelligence, Counterterrorism, Counterintelligence, and Counterproliferation Subcommittee hearing on "Unidentified Aerial Phenomena," on Capitol Hill, Tuesday, May 17, 2022, in Washington.

Associated Press

Congress dives into UFOs, but no signs of extraterrestrials

By NOMAAN MERCHANT
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congress held its first hearing in half a century Tuesday on unidentified flying objects. And no, there is still no government confirmation of extraterrestrial life. Testifying before a House Intelligence subcommittee, Pentagon officials did not disclose additional information from their ongoing investigation of hundreds of unexplained sightings in the sky. But they said they had picked a director for a new task force to coordinate data collection efforts on what the government

has officially labeled "unidentified aerial phenomena." Ronald Moultrie, the undersecretary of defense for intelligence, said the Pentagon was also trying to destigmatize the issue and encourage pilots and other military personnel to report anything unusual they see. "We want to know what's out there as much as you want to know what's out there," Moultrie told lawmakers, adding that he was a fan of science fiction himself. "We get the questions not just from you. We get it from family and we get them night and day." □

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Press secretary hopes her rise helps kids 'dream bigger'

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Karine Jean-Pierre, the new White House press secretary, hopes she can inspire young people to "dream big and dream bigger" now that she has broken a barrier by becoming the first Black and gay woman to be chief spokesperson for the president of the United States.

Jean-Pierre reflected Monday on what it means to become one of the most visible members of President Joe Biden's administration as she spoke about a letter that students at her former elementary school in New York wrote telling her how proud they are of her.

"Representation matters, and not just for girls, but also for boys," Jean-Pierre told reporters during the first of what likely will be hundreds of daily press briefings she will hold.

"And so what I hope is that young people get to dream big and dream bigger than they have before by seeing me stand here and answer all of your questions," she said.

If Jean-Pierre's Haitian parents had had their way, their daughter would be wearing a white doctor's coat and stethoscope instead of the special lapel pin that identifies her as a Biden staffer.

Jean-Pierre's father, a New York City cab driver, and her mother, a home health care aide who also owned a hair salon, wanted her to become a doctor. But she disappointed them by failing her medical school entrance exam.

She went on to earn a master's degree in public administration from Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs. She parlayed her interest in the environment into a job in the early 2000s as director of legislative and budget affairs for New York City Council Member James Gennaro, who was head of the Environmental Protection Committee. It marked her introduction to politics.



White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre laughs during her first press briefing as press secretary at the White House in Washington, Monday, May 16, 2022.

Associated Press

Jean-Pierre wrote in her 2019 memoir, "Moving Forward," that Gennaro took a "huge chance" by hiring her, even with her Ivy League degree. But he said in an interview that "she had a way about her that was poised and competent and friendly and effective without having any trace of qualities that could in any way, shape or form be off-putting."

"She was a rare talent that I was very fortunate to have," Gennaro said. "I'm just very happy and proud to be a little footnote in her journey." Jean-Pierre made the leap into national politics after working for another city council member and later joining a labor union campaign aimed at Walmart. She first worked on Democrat John Edwards' presidential campaign before joining Barack Obama's 2008 presidential bid in Chicago. She followed Obama to the White House, working in his political affairs operation and later on his reelection campaign. She first met Biden while working for Obama.

She moved around after leaving the Obama White House, including working for the ACLU and for the liberal advocacy group MoveOn as its chief public affairs officer during the presidency of Republican

Donald Trump. She also has been an NBC and MSNBC political analyst.

Jean-Pierre, 47, worked on Biden's presidential campaign, then followed him to the White House as principal deputy press secretary. In that role, she led the briefing on several occasions, making history in May 2021 when she first subbed for press secretary Jen Psaki.

She also held regular off-camera gaggles with the much smaller group of reporters who travel aboard Air Force One with the president. Biden promoted Jean-Pierre after Psaki, who had been press secretary since the start of the administration, announced she was stepping down last Friday. □

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House Jan. 6 panel unlikely to call Trump, chairman says

By **MARY CLARE JALONICK**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — House investigators are unlikely to call former President Donald Trump to testify about his role in the Jan. 6, 2021 insurrection, relying instead on interviews with aides, family and others who were close to him at the time.

Mississippi Rep. Bennie Thompson, the Democratic chairman of the nine-member panel investigating the attack, said Tuesday that it's "not our expectations" to call Trump, whose supporters broke into the U.S. Capitol that day and interrupted the certification of President Joe Biden's victory.

"We're not sure that the evidence that we receive can be any more validated with his presence," Thompson said. "I think the concern is whether or not he would add any more value with his testimony."

The comments come as the panel prepares to hold a series of hearings in June and as members make final decisions about who to call for testimony. The committee has already talked to almost 1,000 witnesses behind closed doors or on video, including aides to both Trump and former Vice President Mike Pence who have testified about Trump's pressure on Pence to object to Biden's certi-



Former President Donald Trump, speaks at a campaign rally in Greensburg, Pa., on May 6, 2022.
Associated Press

cation. But the panel hasn't heard directly from either of the two men.

Trump is still pushing falsehoods about the presidential election, saying there was widespread fraud and that he beat Biden even though election officials across the country, federal courts and even his own attorney general rejected those claims. Pence rejected Trump's pressure and refused to try and object as part of his ceremonial role overseeing the electoral count.

Thompson said testimony from Pence would be "significant," but that the committee is still speaking with

the former vice president's lawyers. He said it's unclear whether Pence will eventually sit for an interview.

"Former President Trump made a significant effort to get him to join his side, so I'm convinced that his testimony, beyond what's already in the public record, would enhance the public's knowledge of what went on," Thompson said of Pence.

Much of the evidence the committee has already compiled comes from interviews with former White House aides and staff, including thousands of texts from Trump's final chief of staff, Mark Meadows, and

two of the former president's children, Ivanka Trump and Donald Trump Jr. Both were with their father the day of the attack. The committee has also interviewed former White House aide Jared Kushner, Ivanka's husband, former communications director Alyssa Farah and multiple Pence aides, including his chief of staff, Marc Short, and his national security adviser, Keith Kellogg. Former White House press secretaries Kayleigh McEnany and Stephanie Grisham have also appeared, as has former senior policy adviser Stephen Miller.

The committee last week

subpoenaed House Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy and four other GOP lawmakers, seeking more information about McCarthy's conversations with Trump the day of the attack and meetings the four lawmakers had with the White House as Trump and his aides worked to overturn his 2020 election defeat.

None of the men have said whether they will comply. McCarthy said last week that he viewed the subpoenas as political and declined to comment Tuesday on whether he had made a decision.

The other GOP lawmakers receiving subpoenas were Reps. Jim Jordan of Ohio, Scott Perry of Pennsylvania, Andy Biggs of Arizona and Mo Brooks of Alabama. The committee said the men had participated in meetings at the White House, had direct conversations with Trump leading up to the attack and were "involved in the planning and coordination of certain activities" on or before the insurrection.

McCarthy has acknowledged he spoke with Trump on Jan. 6 as the attack on the Capitol unfolded but he has not shared many details. The committee requested information about McCarthy's conversations with Trump "before, during and after" the riot. □



This Nov. 3, 2008 file photo shows one of Pacific Gas and Electric's Diablo Canyon Power Plant's nuclear reactors in Avila Beach, Calif.

By **MICHAEL R. BLOOD**
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Dozens of environmental and anti-nuclear organizations expressed opposition Tuesday to any attempt to extend the life of California's last operating nuclear

power plant, challenging suggestions that its electricity is needed to meet potential future shortages in the nation's most populous state.

Last month, Democratic Gov. Gavin Newsom raised the possibility that the Dia-

Environmentalists oppose more life for California nuke plant

blo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant — which sits on a coastal bluff halfway between San Francisco and Los Angeles — could keep running beyond a scheduled closing by 2025. His office said the governor is in favor of "keeping all options on the table to ensure we have a reliable (electricity) grid."

In a letter to Newsom, groups that included San Luis Obispo Mothers for Peace, the Oregon Conservancy Foundation, the Snake River Alliance and the Ohio Nuclear Free

Network said the plant is old, unsafe and too close to earthquake faults that pose a threat to the twin reactors. "Your suggestion to extend the operational life of the Diablo Canyon nuclear facility is an outrage," they wrote. "Diablo Canyon is dangerous, dirty and expensive. It must retire as planned."

PG&E, which in 2016 decided to shutter the plant by 2025, did not directly address Newsom's suggestion at the time or say whether the company would consider seeking federal dollars

to remain open beyond the scheduled closing.

PG&E announced the closing plan in 2016 as part of a deal with environmentalists and union workers, citing a "recognition that California's new energy policies will significantly reduce the need for Diablo Canyon's electricity output." But Newsom's suggestion highlights that the thinking has shifted, as the state looks for reliable power sources amid a changing global climate as California gradually shifts to solar, wind and other renewables. □

UK raises stakes in EU feud with threat to break Brexit deal

By JILL LAWLESS

Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — The British government dramatically escalated a fight with the European Union on Tuesday by saying it will pass a law to scrap parts of the trade treaty signed by the two sides less than two years ago.

Britain says its move to singlehandedly change the legally binding treaty an apparent breach of international law is an insurance policy in case it can't reach agreement with the bloc to end a long-running dispute over post-Brexit trade rules.

"Our preference is to reach a negotiated outcome with the EU," Foreign Secretary Liz Truss said.

The announcement drew a sharp response from the EU, which has long accused Prime Minister Boris Johnson of trying to wriggle out of a deal that his government negotiated and signed as part of the U.K.'s exit in 2020. The spat raises the chances of a trade war between Britain and the 27-nation bloc that is even after Brexit its major economic partner.

"Unilateral actions contradicting an international agreement are not acceptable," said EU Vice President Maroš Šefčovič, the bloc's top Brexit official. He said the EU "will need to respond with all measures at its disposal" if the U.K.



Britain's Prime Minister Boris Johnson with a Mark 3 shoulder launch LML (Lightweight Multiple Launcher) missile system, at Thales weapons manufacturer in Belfast, Monday May 16, 2022, during a visit to Northern Ireland.

goes ahead with the bill. Truss told lawmakers in the House of Commons that the move "is consistent with our obligations in international law."

She said the bill will be published in the coming weeks, and she hopes to keep up talks with the bloc in the meantime.

Britain's Conservative government says post-Brexit trade rules are hurting the economy and undermining peace in Northern Ireland, the only part of the U.K. that shares a border with an EU member state.

When Britain left the bloc and its borderless free-trade zone, a deal was agreed to

keep the Irish land border free of customs posts and other checks, because an open border is a key pillar of the peace process that ended decades of violence in Northern Ireland. Instead, to protect the EU's single market, there are checks on some goods, such as meat and eggs, entering Northern Ireland from the rest of the U.K.

The arrangement is opposed by British unionists in Northern Ireland, who say the new checks have put a burden on businesses and frayed the bonds between Northern Ireland and the rest of the U.K. by creating a customs border in the

Irish Sea. The Democratic Unionist Party, Northern Ireland's biggest unionist party, is blocking the formation of a power-sharing regional government in Belfast, which should have been formed after the election this month, until the customs checks are scrapped. Like the DUP, the British government argues that the trade regulations, known as the Northern Ireland Protocol, are destabilizing a peace agreement that relies on support from both Protestant unionist and Catholic nationalist communities.

While the DUP wants the Protocol scrapped, most

other parties in Northern Ireland want to keep it, with tweaks to ease the burden on businesses.

Johnson says his government wants to fix the Protocol rather than rip it up.

The U.K. says technology and trusted-trader programs could be used to create a check-free "green lane" for goods destined for Northern Ireland that are at little risk of entering the EU.

The British government hopes its threat of legislation which would take months to pass through Parliament will increase pressure on the EU to compromise.

"What that actually involves is getting rid of some relatively minor barriers to trade," Johnson said Tuesday. "I think there are good, common sense, pragmatic solutions.

We need to work with our EU friends to achieve that." The bloc insists the treaty can't be renegotiated, though it is willing to be flexible about how the rules are implemented. The EU could hit back with legal action, and potentially trade sanctions, if Britain doesn't back down. Critics of Johnson's government say a U.K.-EU feud is the last thing Europe needs as it seeks unity in response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine, and risks damaging the British economy amid a worsening cost-of-living crisis. □

Associated Press

Heavy rains trigger floods in northeast India, killing 11

By WASBIR HUSSAIN

Associated Press

GAUHATI, India (AP) — At least 11 people have died in floods and mudslides triggered by heavy rains in India's remote northeast region, officials said Tuesday. Several railway stations were closed because of floods, said Nazreen Ahmed, a senior official in Assam's Dima Hasao district. She said nearly 200,000 people in the district were cut off from the rest of the state as roads and bridges

were either blocked by landslides or washed away. The army deployed helicopters to help with rescue efforts.

Officials said four people were killed Monday following heavy rain and mudslides in the region's frontier state of Arunachal Pradesh. Two others died when their houses on a small hillock collapsed in the state's capital, Itanagar, and two road construction workers were killed by mudslides at another location.

Seven other people were reported killed in neighboring Assam. The state's disaster management agency said nearly 700 villages were underwater.

The Indian Meteorological Department forecast very heavy to extremely heavy rain in the region for the next four days.

Landslides and floods are common in India's Himalayan north. Scientists say they are becoming more frequent as global warming contributes to the melting



People inspect the area of a landslide after heavy rainfall in Dima Hasao district, in the northeastern Indian state of Assam, Monday, May 16, 2022.

Associated Press

of glaciers there. In 2020, flash floods killed nearly 200 people and washed away houses in Ut-

tarakhand state. In 2013, thousands of people were killed in floods there. □

Activists ask top court to void Marcos Jr's presidential win

By JIM GOMEZ

Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines (AP)

— Human rights activists have asked the Philippine Supreme Court to block Congress from proclaiming Ferdinand Marcos Jr. as the next president, alleging that he lied when he said he had not been convicted of any crime.

The Commission on Election twice dismissed their petition and six other similar complaints to cancel Marcos Jr.'s candidacy papers ahead of the May 9 vote. The petitioners elevated the case to the highest court on Monday, saying Marcos Jr. was convicted in 1995 of tax evasion with a jail term, which should have permanently barred him from seeking public office. A 1997 Court of Appeals ruling upheld Marcos Jr.'s conviction for failing to



Presidential candidate Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr. celebrates as he greets the crowd outside his headquarters in Mandaluyong, Philippines on Wednesday, May 11, 2022.

Associated Press

file income tax returns from 1982 to 1985 and ordered him to settle his unpaid taxes and fines, but did not mention any imprisonment. Most of the petitioners are

leaders of groups representing survivors of martial law in the 1970s under late dictator Ferdinand Marcos, the father of the presumptive next president. They

want the court to temporarily block the Senate and the House of Representatives from undertaking an official canvassing of votes starting next week that

would eventually proclaim Marcos Jr. as the winner.

"Our petition notes that a candidate's imminent victory cannot cure his ineligibility," said Fides Lim, spokesperson of one of the human rights groups.

"If the Supreme Court were to allow such a brazen lie to trump the rule of law, all substantive eligibility requirements in all future elections can be circumvented by ineligible candidates who happen to secure a victory," she said. Marcos Jr. had more than 31 million votes in an unofficial count in what's projected to be one of the strongest mandates for a Philippine president in decades. Sara Duterte, his vice-presidential running mate and daughter of the outgoing populist president, appears to have also won with a large margin. □



In this July 11, 2021 file photo, plainclothes police detain an anti-government protester during a demonstration over high prices, food shortages and power outages, while some also called for a change in the government, in Havana, Cuba.

Associated Press

Rights groups say new Cuba penal code tougher on dissent

HAVANA (AP) — Cuba's parliament has approved a new penal code that officials say modernizes the country's laws but that human rights groups warn tightens already strict limits on dissent.

The law approved Sunday tightly controls unauthorized contacts with foreign organizations and individuals and explicitly bans foreign financing.

Supreme Court President Rubén Remigio Ferro called it "a modern, very inclusive code," telling state television that it favors "prevention and education before repression" while imposing "sanctions with sufficient rigor" against crimes that affect "social peace and the stability of our nation."

It will take effect after going to a drafting commission and then being published in the official gazette. □

Zimbabwe urges sale of stockpile of seized elephant ivory

By FARAI MUTSAKA

Associated Press

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP)

— Zimbabwe is seeking international support to be allowed to sell its stockpile of seized ivory, saying the \$600 million it expects to earn is urgently needed for the conservation of its rapidly growing elephant population which it describes as "dangerous."

Officials from the Zimbabwe National Parks and Wildlife Management Authority showed ambassadors from European Union countries the stockpile of ivory tusks that have been seized from poachers and collected from elephants that have died.

The Zimbabwean officials appealed to the European Union and other countries to support the sale of ivory which has been banned since 1989 by CITES, the international body that monitors endangered species.

Zimbabwe has 130 tons of ivory and 6 to 7 tons of rhino horn, said Mangwanya.

Envoys from the Nether-



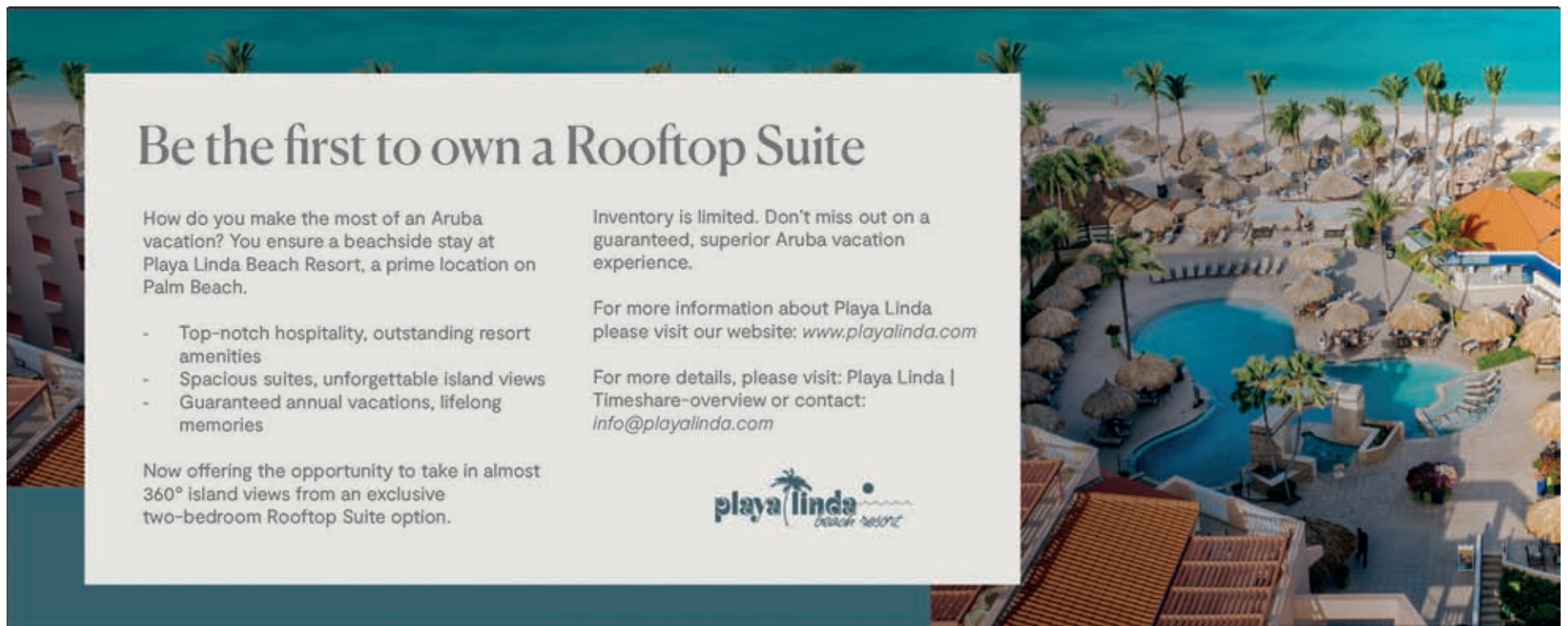
An armed Zimbabwe National Parks ranger guards some of the elephant tusks during a tour of the ivory stockpiles in Harare, Monday, May 16, 2022.

Associated Press

lands, Germany, France, Britain, Switzerland, Canada and the United States viewed the ivory tusks in heavily guarded vaults in Harare. Swiss ambassador to Zimbabwe Niculin Jager, speaking on behalf of the envoys, emphasized the need to fight the poaching of elephants. "Conservation and prevention of illegal wildlife trade is an international issue because of the involvement of criminal syndicates in illegal wildlife trade, hence there is need to strengthen international

co-operation," he said.

Later this month Zimbabwe will be hosting what it calls an "elephant summit" in which representatives of 14 African countries, as well as from China and Japan, will consider ways to manage the populations of the world's largest land animal. "We need assistance. These elephants are multiplying at a dangerous rate, 5% per annum," the parks and wildlife agency's director-general, Fulton angwanya, said during the tour. □



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U.S. to ease a few economic sanctions against Venezuela

By REGINA GARCIA CANO
Associated Press
CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)

— The United States government is moving to ease a few economic sanctions on Venezuela in a gesture meant to encourage resumed negotiations between the U.S.-backed opposition and the government of President Nicolás Maduro.

The limited changes will allow Chevron Corp. to negotiate its license with the state-owned oil company, PDVSA, but not to drill or export any petroleum of Venezuelan origin, two senior U.S. government officials told The Associated Press late Monday. The officials spoke under the condition of anonymity because the formal announcement had not been made.

Additionally, Carlos Erik Malpica-Flores, a former high-ranking PDVSA official and nephew of Venezuela's first lady, will be removed from a list of sanctioned individuals, they said. The moves follow goodwill gestures by Maduro after meeting in March with representatives of the administration of President Joe Biden and a recent gathering in Central America between U.S. officials and the main Unitary Platform opposition coalition to discuss a path forward.

"These are things that ... the Unitary Platform negotiated and came to us to request that we do in or-

der for them to be able to return to the negotiating

use the drug trade as a "weapon against Ameri-

pany to do business in Venezuela, where it first invest-

PDVSA or ... Venezuela's oil sector. So, fundamentally, what they are doing is just allowed to talk."

Chevron did not immediately respond to a request for comment Tuesday. The company's investments in Venezuela's oil fields and machinery over the last century had an estimated value of \$2.6 billion as of 2020.

Venezuela sits atop the world's largest oil reserves, yet its political upheaval and economic decline have pushed more than 6 million people to migrate in recent years.

About three quarters of those who remain live on less than \$1.90 a day, considered the international standard for extreme poverty, and many lack access to clean, running water and electricity.

The U.S. and other countries withdrew recognition of Maduro after accusing him of rigging his 2018 reelection as president. In his place, they recognized Juan Guaidó, who was head of the then-opposition-dominated congress and remains the leader of the Unitary Platform.

For the past five years, the U.S. has used punishing financial and personal sanctions, criminal indictments and support for clandestine groups in an unsuccessful campaign to remove Maduro and restore what it sees as Venezuela's stolen democracy. □



Children play on the letter "P" that is part of the acronym for the state-run oil company Petroleos de Venezuela S.A. (PDVSA) on the sidewalk in Caracas, Venezuela, Jan. 2, 2022.

Associated Press

table," one of the officials said.

Scores of Venezuelans, including the country's attorney general and the head of the penitentiary system, and more than 140 entities, among them Venezuela's Central Bank, will remain sanctioned.

The Treasury Department will continue to prohibit transactions with the Venezuelan government and PDVSA within U.S. financial markets.

Maduro himself is under indictment in the United States, accused of conspiring "to flood the United States with cocaine" and

ca."

Venezuela's government suspended talks with the opposition in October after the extradition to the U.S. of a key Maduro ally on money laundering charges. Maduro at the time conditioned his return to the negotiating table on the release from custody of businessman Alex Saab, who was extradited from the African nation of Cape Verde.

The negotiations took place in Mexico City under the guidance of Norwegian diplomats.

California-based Chevron is the last major U.S. oil com-

ed in the 1920s. Its four joint ventures with PDVSA produced about 200,000 barrels a day in 2019, but the U.S. government ordered it in 2020 to wind down production, and since then, it has only been allowed to carry out essential work on oil wells to preserve its assets and employment levels in Venezuela.

The change allows "Chevron to negotiate the terms of the potential future activities in Venezuela," a senior U.S. official told reporters Tuesday. "It does not allow entry into any agreement with PDVSA or any other activity involving



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ing large groups of injured people, helping people from the rush into a vehicle and transporting detainees after the passage of a hurricane.

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Aruba's underwater wonderland



ORANJESTAD - Exploring the underwater wonders is something you should definitely do during your stay in Aruba. The underwater world has everything to offer that makes a snorkel trip so exceptional; an impressive, colorful sea life with exotic fishes, turtles and beautiful coral reef. The historic shipwrecks, located on the Aruban seabed are also worth a visit. Aruba is known for its white beaches and blue oceans, which means there are many fascinating under water spots, where you can take your snorkeling gear and we selected the top spots for you.

Baby Beach

Baby beach; a white beach, with a crystal blue ocean. The beach is located on the southern part of the island. On the way to the famous beach, you will drive through the old capital of Aruba, San Nicolas. The old Aruban culture can be still felt and experienced here, so do not hesitate to get out of your car and walk around for a while. Baby beach is a child friendly beach, since it is shallow and the water has a pleasant temperature. The name therefore fits well with the beach. Baby beach is an excellent beach for snorkeling, especially if you want to go with small children, because the water remains shallow and there are still many underwater wonders to see. In the ocean there is an area marked until where it is recommended to snorkel and on the beach you will find different facilities.

ties. It is a perfect beach to spend your day snorkeling and relaxing.

MangelHalto

MangelHalto beach is located in Savaneta, on the southern-west part of the island. The beach is different from the other beaches in Aruba; it is beach full of mangroves. You reach the beach by a bridge through the mangroves and then you will have several entrances to the sea. There are diverse spots where you can enjoy a perfect beach day, wooden stairs made to enter the water and a dock to sit on and enjoy the view. MangelHalto is also worth a visit for the snorkeling experience. Inside the bay, the water is clear and you find many colorful fish. Outside the bay is a bit more challenging for beginners because of the wind and the waves, but the coral is alive and it is just like snorkel heaven. □



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Article by Etnia Nativa

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The uses of the Watapana tree

Episode CLIV- 154

Etnia Nativa facilitates cultural awareness, education and safeguards Aruba's heritage by elevating each reader into an island keeper state of mind. Be encouraged to discover in every episode the true native effect, live it, get more reasons to love Aruba behind the beaches and live up your stay in an incredibly wonderful way.

The watapana is a tree that often appears adorning the entrance of a typical Aruban houses.

Watapana-(*Caesalpinia coriaria*) erroneously called "Divi'divi" (to see episode 126) is a crooked small tree, growing to a height of 10 meters in good conditions, in this episode we will have it about some of alternatives uses of this very well know Aruban tree, logo of public TV station, native to Tropical America and the West Indies.

Watapana is propagated by seed. During the first two years, watering is necessary specially during the dry season. Mature trees require very little care, and forage crops can be planted between the trees. Trees are relatively slow growing and generally commence flowering 5-7 years after sowing. Full crops of pods are produced after about 20 years. Some fungi varieties such as *Fomes lucidus*, *Micropeltis domingensis* and *Zignoella caesalpiniae*, attacks these pod known also by the name divi-divi: These divi-divi pods are collected before or after they drop from the tree. Trees yield about 45-135 kg pods per year.

The pods of *Caesalpinia coriaria* are very rich in tannin and are used in the tanning industry. The tannins can easily be extracted. They are mainly present in the white powdery tissue just below the epidermis of the pod, and this tissue is easily collected when the dry pods are ruptured. The tan stuff from the pods is generally used as a blend for tanning leather, mixed with other tanning materials. Divi-divi is often used in rapid



drum tanning of light leathers and in leather dressing. The pods are also used to prepare a blackish or bluish dye for cotton and wool and a black ink, used e.g. in the decoration of traditional potteries and gourds in Central America. They are sometimes employed as a mordant for dyeing vegetable fibres with other dyes.

Certain places in India use watapana wood as a source of red dye.

In addition, studies carried out ensure

that watapana has certain medicinal properties: Like containing antibacterial alkalines, corrosion-inhibiting, anthelmintic, anticancer, antihelminthic, and antidiabetic.

Other studies also indicate that *Caesalpinia coriaria* is a potential candidate plant for the management of phytopathogens, which are fungi that affect plants such as rice, wheat, corn, potatoes and soybeans, which are very important worldwide. The antibacterial active extract of its leaves and pods are verely actively in combating the first invasive signs. Is very important.

Research done in countries like Mexico showed that pods are used to bandage sores because they have a rapid anti-scar and anti-inflammatory effect.

If you love Aruba its origins and its cultural heritage, be part of the exclusive visitors of Etnia Nativa: a cozy museum/home. □

Etnia Nativa a private residential houses collections of native art, archaeological artifacts and historic furniture, while the facilities themselves are the result of the transformation of recycled materials.

Meet Anthony Croes, our columnist at his home! Book your visit Whatsapp + 297 592 2702- or mail: etnianativa03@gmail.com



De-Arching: McDonald's to sell Russia business, exit country

By **DAVID KOENIG** and **DEE-ANN DURBIN**
AP Business Writers

McDonald's is closing its doors in Russia, ending an era of optimism and increasing the country's isolation over its war in Ukraine. The Chicago burger giant confirmed Monday that it is selling its 850 restaurants in Russia. McDonald's said it will seek a buyer who will employ its 62,000 workers in Russia, and will continue to pay those workers until the deal closes.

"Some might argue that providing access to food and continuing to employ tens of thousands of ordinary citizens, is surely the right thing to do," McDonald's President and CEO Chris Kempczinski said in a letter to employees. "But it is impossible to ignore the humanitarian crisis caused by the war in Ukraine."

McDonald's said it's the first time the company has ever "de-arched," or exited a major market. It plans to start removing golden arches and other symbols and signs with the company's name. McDonald's said it will also keep its trademarks in Russia and take steps to enforce them if necessary.

McDonald's said in early March that it was tempo-



The oldest of Moscow's McDonald's outlets, which was opened on Jan. 31, 1990, is closed on Aug. 21, 2014.

rarily closing its stores in Russia but would continue to pay its employees. It was a costly decision. Late last month, the company said it was losing \$55 million each month due to the restaurant closures. It also lost \$100 million worth of inventory.

McDonald's has also closed 108 restaurants in Ukraine and continues to pay its employees there. Western companies have wrestled with extricating themselves from Russia, en-

during the hit to their bottom lines from pausing or closing operations in the face of sanctions. Others have stayed in Russia at least partially, with some facing blowback.

French carmaker Renault said Monday that it would sell its majority stake in Russian car company Avtovaz and a factory in Moscow to the state — the first major nationalization of a foreign business since the war began.

Maxim Sytch, a professor of

management and organizations at the University of Michigan's Ross School of Business, said McDonald's and others also face pressure from customers, employees and investors over their Russian operations.

"The era where companies could avoid taking a stance is over," Sytch said. "People want to be associated with companies that do the right thing. There's much more to business — and life — than maximizing profit margins."

Associated Press

McDonald's first restaurant in Russia opened in the middle of Moscow more than three decades ago, shortly after the fall of the Berlin Wall. It was a powerful symbol of the easing of Cold War tensions between the United States and Soviet Union, which would collapse in 1991.

Now, the company's exit is proving symbolic of a new era, analysts say. Sytch, who lived in Russia when McDonald's entered the market and remembers the excitement surrounding the opening, said the closing signifies a reversal to the Soviet era of isolation.

"It's really painful to see the many years of gains on the democratic front being wiped out with this atrocious war in Ukraine," he said.

Kempczinski left open the possibility that McDonald's could someday return to the Russian market.

"It's impossible to predict what the future may hold, but I choose to end my message with the same spirit that brought McDonald's to Russia in the first place: hope," he wrote in his employee letter. "Thus, let us not end by saying, 'goodbye.' Instead, let us say as they do in Russian: Until we meet again." □

Buffett's firm reveals new stakes in Paramount, Citigroup

By **JOSH FUNK**
AP Business Writer

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Warren Buffett's company on Monday revealed all the investment moves it made in the first quarter, when it spent more than \$51 billion on stocks.

But Buffett had already shared the biggest investments with Berkshire Hathaway shareholders at the company's recent annual meeting. That means investors already knew that he had invested heavily in Chevron, Occidental Petroleum and HP Inc. during the quarter, while picking up nearly 4 million more Apple shares and betting that Microsoft's acquisition

of Activision Blizzard will go through.

But Monday's Securities and Exchange Commission filing also revealed new stakes in Citigroup, Ally Financial, media company Paramount Global, insurer Markel, chemical maker Celanese Corp., and pharmaceutical distributor McKesson Corp.

Berkshire also added 2 million General Motors shares to give it 62 million shares of the automaker during a quarter when its cash pile shrank to \$106 billion from \$147 billion because of all of its stock purchases.

The filing Berkshire submitted Monday doesn't make clear which moves Buffett

made and which investments were made by Berkshire's two other investment managers. But Buffett typically handles all the company's larger investments worth more than \$1 billion, such as Berkshire's stakes in Apple, Bank of America and Coca-Cola. Buffett and other Berkshire officials don't comment on these quarterly stock filings. Recent SEC filings showed that Berkshire continued buying Occidental Petroleum shares after the first quarter ended and it now holds more than 15% of the oil producer's stock.

In addition to all the new investments, Berkshire did sell off nearly \$10 billion in



Warren Buffett, chairman and CEO of Berkshire Hathaway, speaks following the annual Berkshire Hathaway shareholders meeting in Omaha, Neb., May 5, 2019.

Associated Press

stocks, including trimming its holdings in grocer Kroger and Verizon Communications, and eliminating investments in drugmakers Abbvie and Bristol Myers Squibb.

Besides investments, Berk-

shire owns an eclectic assortment of more than 90 companies, including BNSF railroad, several major utilities, Geico and other insurers, and an assortment of manufacturing and retail companies. □

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS** 39 Banded
1 Humiliate rock
6 Racket 40 Unaided
10 Henry 41 Walking
VIII's aid
house 42 Salad
11 Slow servers
tempo

- DOWN**
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13 Look 9 Tourist
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14 Tiara 27 Pay stub
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15 Hurry 11 Treat
28 Flings
16 Memor- 3 Inflexible
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17 Sailing 4 Terrarium
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18 Twisty fish 15 Greedy
29 Near the
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32 Game 5 Hosp.
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33 Sticky 6 Shop
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38 Some 25 Broadcast
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Yesterday's answer

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34			35				36		
37						38			
39						40			
41						42			

5-18

A X Y D L B A A X R
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

5-18

CRYPTOQUOTE

C E W O Z G D I E K D X O E V T K D

X I T N N D W X O E O R E X D Y T O R

Y E E F D G I D V X L G F V I E K D X O E

O R E X D Y T O R G E R I G F X

— O R D E N R T I D V L Z O T D W

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: GIVE A GIRL THE RIGHT SHOES AND SHE CAN CONQUER THE WORLD. — MARILYN MONROE

Alex Garland confronts the horrors of past, present in 'Men'



This image released by A24 shows Jessie Buckley in a scene from "Men."

Associated Press

By LINDSEY BAHR
AP Film Writer

It wasn't Jessie Buckley's audition but an observation she made that got her the leading role in "Men." When speaking to filmmaker Alex Garland about his heady idea to grapple with masculinity and its foundational myths and virulent cycles within a folk horror construct, Buckley caught him off guard: She started talking about the metallic taste of blood and how the character might feel about it. It was strange and unusual and perfect, he thought. "It was quite an abstract way of thinking. It was also a very clear way of thinking," Garland said. "It wasn't trying to second guess either me or an invisible person who might be observing and judging the conversation. It was very unfettered and very instinctive and it just spoke to me. I thought, 'Oh we're going to be able to work together.'"

For "Men" to work, or at least not be conservative or boring, which are his greatest fears, he knew he'd have to take big, weird swings. After all, "Men," which opens in exclusively theaters on Friday, is a film which draws on the ancient imagery and symbolism of the Green Man, an historic symbol of rebirth and regeneration, and the Sheela-na-gig, a carving of a naked woman with exaggerated female anatomy. He knew Buckley was a

great actor, but it was a meeting of sensibilities that made her right. She'd do a primal scream in a church that would end up becoming a note in the actual score, throw out ideas of her own and try wild things that she knew would probably end up on the cutting room floor.

"Alex sets a place where everything is possible," said Buckley.

Garland had been thinking about the concept for many years. He wrote the first draft sometime after writing "Sunshine" and would go back to it time and time again. Sometimes themes would even find their way into his other films like "Ex Machina" and "Annihilation." Though toxic masculinity is a contemporary phrase, the concept is anything but and Garland wanted to make something that acknowledged that.

But "Men" didn't come together until he distilled it down to its simplest form: A woman, Harper (Buckley), has just had a traumatic experience and personal loss and retreats to the English countryside for a stay in a 500-year-old estate. There she encounters a variety of men, all of whom are played by Rory Kinnear. There's an aggressive child, a misogynistic vicar, a kind homeowner, a police officer, a barkeep, some townies and a drifter who appears to be follow-

ing her. As the film progresses, her personal safety and search for peace come under attack in ways both subtle and not.

Whenever Kinnear would come on set as a different character, Buckley said there was always a shift in the air. When the homeowner Geoffrey was there, it was "party time." When the vicar came, "there was an iciness." Kinnear isn't method, so it wasn't anything he was doing per se, but it was a visceral experience for the actors and crew. It helped that they kept it light between the intense takes.

"Rory is probably the funniest person I've ever worked with, which was a complete tonic," Buckley said. "If it was someone who was incredibly serious and heavy with it, it would have been completely different."

Garland looked to many of his frequent collaborators to help bring the world of "Men" to life, like production designer Mark Digby, set decorator Michelle Day and cinematographer Rob Hardy. Garland feels like he's always asked to present a kind of lie to the world as the public face of a film and he wants to give credit where it's due.

"Everybody overdignifies directors," Garland said. "I'm constantly being given credit for things I have nothing do with. So many things that feel directorial in the film are Michelle Day. Sometimes people will talk about the way I framed a shot, but it's Rob Hardy who framed the shot. There's a phrase that often gets used: 'So and so coaxed a performance out of such and such actor.' I don't think I've ever coaxed a performance out of anyone in my life."

But, Buckley noted, someone does need to lead.

"You need somebody to set that tone," Buckley said. "I've worked with directors that don't do that. They don't create a space where there is a collective conscience." □

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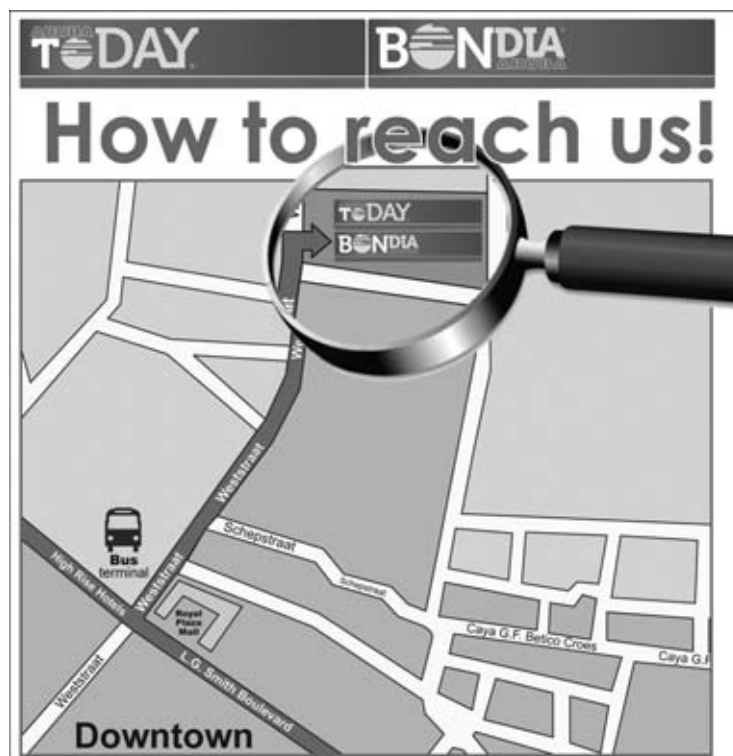
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Musk: Doubt about spam accounts could scuttle Twitter deal

LONDON (AP) — Tesla CEO Elon Musk says his deal to buy Twitter can't move forward unless the company shows public proof that less than 5% of the accounts on the social media platform are fake or spam. Musk made the comment in a reply to another user on Twitter early Tuesday. He spent much of the previous day in a back-and-forth with Twitter CEO Parag Agrawal, who posted a series of tweets explaining his company's effort to fight bots and how it has consistently estimated that less than 5% of Twitter accounts are fake. In his tweet Tuesday, Musk said that "20% fake/spam accounts, while 4 times what Twitter claims, could be much higher. My offer was based on Twitter's SEC filings being accurate." □



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Epicenter is 6-5 favorite for Preakness without Rich Strike

By **STEPHEN WHYNO**

AP Sports Writer

BALTIMORE (AP) — Kentucky Derby runner-up Epicenter was set Monday as the 6-5 morning line favorite for the Preakness Stakes, which will be run without Rich Strike.

The surprise Derby winner at 80-1 is not in the field of nine for Saturday's \$1.65 million race. Rich Strike's owner felt the two-week turnaround did not give the colt enough rest and plans to enter him in the Belmont. Kicking off the Preakness draw at a Baltimore-area restaurant, emcee Britney Eurtan talked about Rich Strike pulling off "one of the greatest upsets in sports history. Though we might not have the Kentucky Derby winner, there is no shortage of talented runners," she said. Rich Strike's absence clouds the second jewel of horse racing's Triple Crown and makes this the second Preakness in four years without the Derby winner.

Last year, Medina Spirit ran and finished third at Pimlico after testing positive at Churchill Downs for a substance that was not allowed on race day and was eventually disqualified. In 2020, the the races were run out of order because of the pandemic. And in



Kentucky Derby entrant Epicenter works out at Churchill Downs Thursday, May 5, 2022, in Louisville, Ky.

2019, neither DQ'ed Derby champion Maximum Security nor elevated winner Country House went to the Preakness.

This time, Steve Asmussen-trained Epicenter, who drew the No. 8 post, fourth-place finisher Simplification and 14th-place finisher Happy Jack are the only horses back for the Preakness from the Derby, which Rich Strike won with a furious charge down the stretch.

No. 6 Happy Jack, trained

by 2012 Derby and Preakness winner Doug O'Neill, is 30-1. Simplification is 6-1 and drew the rail spot with the No. 1 post position and jockey John Velazquez set to ride.

"At first I thought, not good, but Johnny V is so smart," trainer Antonio Sano said. "He'll make the decision if he wants to take the option outside."

Kentucky Oaks winner Secret Oath is the third betting choice on the morning line at 9-2 after Hall of

Fame trainer D. Wayne Lukas opted to enter the filly in the Preakness. She drew post position No. 4.

Early Voting is the 7-2 second choice after skipping the Derby. Trainer Chad Brown targeted the Preakness for Early Voting, who drew the No. 5 post position.

While Taiba and Messier aren't in the Preakness, there is a Bob Baffert presence in Armagnac, a late entry whom the two-time Triple Crown winning train-

er transferred to Tim Yakteen. Baffert is serving a suspension in Kentucky for medication violations and would not have been allowed to saddle any horses in the Preakness. No. 7 Armagnac is 12-1.

Added to the field at the extra cost of \$150,000, No. 2 Creative Minister is 10-1. No. 9 Skippy Longstocking is 20-1, and longshot No. 3 Fenwick is 50-1.

"I think there's three or four horses to outrun in here, personally, and I'm way behind them," Fenwick trainer Kevin McKathan said. "Steve's horse (Epicenter) is obviously the bullet going in. Tami Bobo's horse, Simplification, runs hard every time and then Wayne's filly, she's special, so you have to outrun her. And the rest of them, they're there and we've got to put up with them." Beyond Rich Strike, a handful of other horses expected to run in the Preakness were removed from the field before the draw. Un Ojo, the one-eyed gelding whose bruised foot kept him out of the Derby, was taken out of consideration Monday after the injury flared up. Trainer Ricky Courville reported veterinarians looked Un Ojo over and said, "He's not 100 percent." □

Associated Press



Eritrea's Biniam Girmay celebrates after winning the 10th stage of the Giro D'Italia cycling race from Pescara to Jesi, Italy, Tuesday, May 17, 2022.

Associated Press

JESI, Italy (AP) — It's been a season of firsts for Biniam Girmay, and the Eritrean rider added a stage victory in the Giro d'Italia on Tuesday in his first Grand Tour to raise the profile of African cycling. The 22-year-old Girmay

outsprinted none other than Mathieu van der Poel — one of the top riders in the sport — to win the 10th stage.

Now he's the first Black African to win a stage at the Giro, and second African overall after Alan van

Eritrea's Girmay takes Giro leg in win for African cycling

Heerden won in nearby Pesaro in 1979.

"I realize I'm making history but it's thanks to my team and my family," Girmay said. "I'm really grateful to them." Girmay was then taken to a local hospital after getting injured when he popped a champagne cork into his eye during the podium celebration.

Spanish rider Juan Pedro López of the Trek-Segafredo team maintained his 12-second lead over João Almeida in the overall standings as the three-week race approached the half-way stage. Romain Bardet is 14 seconds back. In March, Girmay

became the first rider from a sub-Saharan country to win a single-day classic when he triumphed in the Gent-Wevelgem race.

The the first half of the 196-kilometer (122-mile) leg from Pescara to Jesi was mainly flat along the Adriatic coast before three fourth-category climbs later in the day.

Several riders attacked without success on the final climb to Monsano and the ensuing descent.

Girmay nearly missed a turn on the descent but was able to recover in time to rejoin the leaders for the finale.

Girmay started his sprint

early and Van der Poel pulled even with him at one point. Then Girmay stepped up the pace and Van der Poel — realizing he had no answer — flashed a thumbs up toward Girmay before the pair crossed the line. The Dutchman was also the first rider to give Girmay a congratulatory hug.

Girmay, who rides for the Intermarché-Wanty-Gobert Matériaux team, completed the stage in slightly more than 4 ½ hours. Van der Poel and Vincenzo Albanese crossed second and third, respectively, both with the same time as Girmay. □

Tiger Woods says he's all about majors, a Mickelson rebuke

By DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

TULSA, Okla. (AP) — Tiger Woods is all about majors and legacy, a point he drove home Tuesday in a sharp rebuke of Phil Mickelson and his support of a Saudi-funded golf venture that led to Lefty not defending his title at the PGA Championship.

Even as Woods resumes a remarkable return from a car crash 15 months ago that nearly led to his right leg being amputated, the PGA Championship cannot escape the absence of Mickelson and speculation about who might sign up for Greg Norman's new Saudi-backed golf series.

Woods said he has not tried to reach out to Mickelson since his self-imposed hiatus from golf three months ago, mainly because of their difference of opinion on how golf should be run.

"I understand different viewpoints, but I believe in legacies. I believe in major championships. I believe in big events, comparisons to historical figures of the past," Woods said.

"There's plenty of money out here," he said. "The tour is growing. But it's just like any other sport — it's like tennis — you have to go out there and earn it. You've got to go out there and play for it. We have opportunity to go ahead and do it. It's just not guar-



Tiger Woods hits a chip shot on the 11th hole during a practice round for the PGA Championship golf tournament at Southern Hills Country Club on Monday, May 16, 2022, in Tulsa, Okla.

Associated Press

anteed up front."

That was a reference to some of the Public Investment Fund money out of Saudi Arabia being offered to players to join Norman and his LIV Golf Investments. According to various reports out of Britain, some top players were being offered more than the \$120 million Woods has made in career PGA Tour earnings. Mickelson showed his hand in two interviews published in February. He accused the PGA Tour of "obnoxious greed" while playing in Saudi Arabia, and more incendiary comments followed when Alan Shipnuck

published an excerpt of his unauthorized biography on Mickelson.

Mickelson said the Saudis were "scary mother-(expletives) to get involved with," and then dismissed its human rights atrocities — such as the killing of Washington Post columnist Jamal Khashoggi — by saying it was worth it to gain leverage to make changes on the PGA Tour.

He also said he didn't care if the Saudi league failed, as long as the tour made changes he wanted.

Mickelson decided last Friday he would not play at Southern Hills, missing out on

a chance to be celebrated for his historic win last year at Kiawah Island when at age 50 he became golf's oldest major champion. He is the first PGA champion not to defend since Woods was recovering from knee surgery in 2008 and skipped Oakland Hills.

"It's always disappointing when the defending champion is not here," Woods said. "Phil has said some things that I think a lot of us who are committed to the tour and committed to the legacy of the tour have pushed back against, and he's taken some personal time, and we all un-

derstand that. But I think that some of his views on how the tour could be run, should be run, been a lot of disagreement there."

"He's just taking his time and we all wish him the best when he comes back."

Woods, meanwhile, is back and more optimistic than he was a month ago at the Masters. He said those who are close to him were thrilled to see him walk all 72 holes at Augusta National, his first time walking while competing since the Feb. 23, 2021, accident in Los Angeles that shattered bones in his right leg and ankle. All he could think about the day after was a bad putting week that led to a 78-78 weekend.

He said the Monday after the Masters was a tough day of recovery, and then he went right back to work trying to gain strength and endurance.

"It's better than the last time I played a tournament, which is good," Woods said.

He is the defending PGA champion at Southern Hills, having won by two shots in 2007 for his 13th of what is now 15 majors. And he barely recognized the course after a restoration project that brought back a few meandering creeks and returned the edges of the putting surfaces so they funnel shots away from the green. □

Tom Brady featured in upcoming Netflix 'Greatest' roast

HOLLYWOOD, Calif. (AP)

— Tom Brady will be on the hot seat — this time during a Netflix roast. Netflix announced Tuesday the seven-time Super Bowl champion will be featured first in a series of upcoming specials called "Greatest Roasts of All Time: GROAT."

Brady is the executive producer of the series, with his roast set to tape in 2023. "To quote my good friend, Marshawn Lynch ... 'I'm just here so I won't get fined,'" Brady said in a

press release, which refers to him as "Gisele Bündchen's husband" and a "sixth-round NFL draft pick." "We can't wait to burn three-time Super Bowl-losing quarterback Tom Brady, who only went back to the NFL in order to delay this roast," said Robbie Prawn, Netflix vice president of stand-up and comedy formats. "In all seriousness, it's a huge thrill to work with the greatest football player of all time on this project. No one's

better at taking hits and still coming out on top, so we know the roast will be a breeze for Brady."

After 20 seasons with the New England Patriots, Brady led the Tampa Bay Buccaneers to a Super Bowl win after the 2020 season. The 44-year-old Brady announced his retirement in January, but in March reversed course, saying he'll return as Tampa Bay's quarterback for another season.

Brady, the NFL leader in



Tampa Bay Buccaneers quarterback Tom Brady (12) smiles as he runs off the field after an NFL preseason football game against the Houston Texans, Saturday, Aug. 28, 2021, in Houston.

Associated Press

career passing yards and touchdown passes, recently announced he'll

become a Fox Sports analyst when his NFL career is done. □

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